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# An informal summary of the gas catcher activities at the FRS (& LaSpec)

### Iain Moore



### The NUSTAR facility







### Low Energy Branch of the Super-FRS

LEB: High-precision experiments with in-flight separated exotic nuclei almost at rest, (production by projectile fragmentation / fission)



### MATS (Precision Measurements of very short-lived nuclei using an Advanced Trapping System for highly charged ions)

- High accuracy mass measurements
- In-trap conversion electron and alpha spectroscopy
- Trap-assisted spectroscopy

#### LaSpec (Laser Spectroscopy)

- Collinear laser spectroscopy of ions and atoms
- $\beta$ -NMR
- Resonance ionization spectroscopy



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### Challenging design goals for a gas catcher



- Energy straggling: determines areal density of gas needed for efficient stopping
- Impurities: loss of ions due to molecular formation
- Ionization density: space charge
- Beam size

#### Energy/range bunching device





#### <sup>100</sup>Sn projectile fragments

- unwanted isotopes well separated
- more intense fragments stop earlier



#### <sup>133</sup>Sn fission fragments

- poorer quality beams
- isobars have longer range

### Stopping efficiency vs areal density

Range straggling calculated from standard deviation of previous range distributions (given in Al, but converted to He).



I.D. Moore, FAIR mini workshop, JYFL, 26 Nov. 2015

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### First generation cryogenic stopping cell



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### Setup at GSI, S4 cave, Oct. 2011 / July 2012



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### Cooling system design and performance

stopping cell

cooling system





- 2011 expt:  $IN_2$  cooling (gas T $\sim$ 100 K)
- 2012: Cryocooler-based system
- Min. temp of 72K reached (~design goal)
- Operational temp <110K after 10h cooling</li>
- <sup>219</sup>Rn survival and extraction: ~30%
- Largest areal density off-line ~7mg/cm<sup>2</sup>
- On-line 3.1 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> used
- DC of 30V/cm applied across the cell

#### Twin cooling channels



Design, construction and cooling system performance of a prototype cryogenic stopping cell for the Super-FRS at FAIR

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### Extraction time





The FRS Ion Catcher – A facility for high-precision experiments with stopped projectile and fission fragments

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CrossMark

Extraction time from middle of cell  $\sim$ 25 ms Mass of <sup>213</sup>Rn measured, T<sub>1/2</sub> = 19.5 ms

#### Design goal:

- Short-lived isotopes ~10 ms
- Extraction time  $\alpha$  areal density,  $1/\alpha$  to electric field
- "Ideal" limitation due to Paschen curve



### Stopping and extraction efficiencies



	Exp. I	Exp. II
$p \;(\mathrm{mbar})$	$98 \pm 5$	$47 \pm 2$
T (K)	$100 \pm 2$	$78 \pm 2$
AD in He $(mg/cm^2)$	$4.9 \pm 0.3$	$3.1\pm0.2$
$^{223}$ Th		
$\sigma_R$ in Al (mg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	$13.4\pm0.7$	$13.7\pm0.8$
$\epsilon_{ m stop}$	$(27.0 \pm 2.4)\%$	$(15.9 \pm 1.8)\%$
$\epsilon_{ m total}$	$(11.6 \pm 1.6)\%$	$(9.9 \pm 1.5)\%$
$\epsilon_{ m sur+ext}$	$(43 \pm 7)\%$	$(62 \pm 12)\%$
$^{221}Ac$		
$\epsilon_{ m stop, calc}$		$(15.7 \pm 1.8)\%$
$\epsilon_{ m total}$		$(7.7 \pm 1.6)\%$
$\epsilon_{\rm sur+ext}$		$(49 \pm 11)\%$
$^{219}$ Rn		
$\epsilon_{ m stop, calc}$	$(25.0 \pm 2.4)\%$	
$\epsilon_{\mathrm{total}}$	$(14.5 \pm 2.0)\%$	
$\epsilon_{\rm sur+ext}$	$(58 \pm 9)\%$	



First experimental results of a cryogenic stopping cell with short-lived, heavy uranium fragments produced at 1000 MeV/u

S Purushothaman, M P Reiter, E Haettner, P Dendooven, T Dickel, H Geissel, J Ebert, C Jesch, W R Plaß, M Ranjan, H Weick, F Amjad, S Ayet, M Diwisch, A Estrade, F Farinon, F Greiner, N Kalantar-Nayestanaki, R Knöbel, J Kurcewicz, J Lang, I D Moore, I Mukha, C Nociforo, M Petrick, M Pfützner, S Pietri, A Prochazka, A-K Rink, S Rinta-Antila, C Scheidenberger, M Takechi, Y K Tanaka, J S Winfield and M I Yavor

2013 EPL 104 42001

Extraction of <sup>221</sup>Ac ( $T_{1/2}$  = 52 ms)



Mean T<sub>extr</sub> = 23 ms

Beam intensities: few 100 to 2000 s<sup>-1</sup>  $\equiv \sim 10^7$  He<sup>+</sup> ion – electron pairs/cm<sup>3</sup>.s

### First "physics" measurement at the FRS Ion Catcher (Oct. 2014)





### Rate capability of the stopping cell





He ions

1 stopped ion creates  $\sim 10^7$ He ion-electron pairs

Deflection of ions; defocusing of electric field;  $\rightarrow$  reduced extraction efficiency,  $\rightarrow$  reduced extraction time.

Exit

Equipotential lines

- Extraction efficiency constant up to a rate of 10<sup>4</sup> ions/s
- Drops to 10% of original value at 10<sup>7</sup> ions/s
- Gain in rate for factor of 2 increase in DC field strength only 40%
- Reduction due to space charge effects along the DC cage

M.P. Reiter et al., accepted for publication in NIMB (2015)



### The Low-Energy Branch cave - space



#### Presently under discussion (LEB infrastructure meetings)





I.D. Moore, FAIR mini workshop, JYFL, 26 Nov. 2015

## Probing the nuclear fingerprint on the atom

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### The current status of laser spectroscopy



## Thanks for your attention!

Dead

#### C. Jesch